

Southwark Brexit Panel

MINUTES of the Southwark Brexit Panel held on Tuesday 4 February 2020 at 6.30 pm
at Ground Floor Meeting Room G01A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT: Councillor Victoria Mills (Chair)
Councillor Stephanie Cryan
Councillor Margy Newens
Councillor David Noakes

**OFFICER
SUPPORT:** Stephen Douglass (Director of Communities)
Stephen Gaskell (Head of Chief Executive's Office)
Danny Edwards (Strategy and Partnerships Manager)
Aine Gallagher (Principal Policy and Public Affairs Officer)

1. APOLOGIES

There were apologies for absence from Councillors Jon Hartley and Maria Linforth-Hall, and for lateness from Councillor Margy Newens.

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 July 2019 were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. IMPACT OF BREXIT ON SOUTHWARK - PROGRESS REPORT

Councillor Victoria Mills introduced the report. The meeting then discussed issues around lobbying government and raising issues affecting Southwark post-Brexit via the most appropriate forums.

The panel also discussed engaging with affected residents and workers, the possibility of

organising a Brexit summit, and the actions arising from the motion agreed at the last meeting of council assembly.

The council's need for accurate and up-to-date statistical data on EU residents and workers and the impact of Brexit on the local hospitality and restaurant industries were also discussed.

The meeting agreed to schedule in panel meetings every eight weeks, or when events required it.

5. SOUTHWARK COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO BREXIT - EXTERNAL AFFAIRS PLAN

After an introduction to the report given by Councillor Victoria Mills, the meeting discussed issues around engaging with EU residents and staff, and communicating the rules regarding settled status to these residents. This would include a call for expressions of interest aimed at voluntary sector groups to run engagement projects. Further groups for the council to liaise with regarding engagement should include business improvement districts, hospitals, social care providers and large employers in the borough.

The meeting further discussed the non-availability of reliable figures regarding the number of EU residents and their settled status, and possible ways of obtaining these, as well as the voting rights of EU nationals.

The meeting ended at 7.35 pm.

CHAIR:

DATED: